

# U.S. Vaccination Rates for Selected Vaccines, by Poverty Level

U.S. Vaccination Rates (%) for Selected Vaccines, by Poverty Level, in Children Aged 19–36 Months\*

Number of doses and vaccine received	Recommend- ed Number of Doses <sup>†</sup>	U.S. National	At or Above Poverty	Below Poverty	Unknown Poverty
<b>Three or more doses of DTP</b> (any diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccines or closely related vaccines)	5	95.8	96.7	93.4	96.3
<b>Four or more doses of DTP</b>	5	85.3	87.1	80.7	84.3
<b>Three or more doses of Poliovirus</b>	4	92.5	93.2	90.5	93.0
<b>One or more doses of MMR</b> (measles, mumps, rubella)	2	91.6	92.5	89.6	89.1
<b>Three or more doses of Hib</b> ( <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b)	4	93.7	94.6	91.1	93.4
<b>Three or more doses of HepB</b> (hepatitis B)	3	93.0	93.7	91.5	90.9
<b>More than one dose of Chickenpox</b> (varicella vaccine, at or after child's first birthday, not adjusted for history of varicella illness)	2	88.5	89.2	87.4	85.2
<b>Four or more doses DTP, three or more doses poliovirus, one or more dose of MMR</b>	5 DTP, 4 polio, 2 MMR	82.9	84.8	78.4	79.8

**Source:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2005–2006. Estimated vaccination coverage with individual vaccines and selected vaccination series among children 19–35 months of age by poverty level and race/ethnicity. U.S. National Immunization Survey, Q3/2005–Q2/2006. Retrieved September 3, 2008, from [http://www2a.cdc.gov/nip/coverage/nis/nis\\_iap.asp?fmt=r&rpt=tab32\\_pov\\_race&qtr=Q3/2005-Q2/2006](http://www2a.cdc.gov/nip/coverage/nis/nis_iap.asp?fmt=r&rpt=tab32_pov_race&qtr=Q3/2005-Q2/2006).

\* Children in the National Immunization Survey were born between July 2002 and January 2005.

<sup>†</sup> Number of doses recommended from birth to 6 years old.

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### For Further Reflection

1. What trend or trends do you see in immunization levels and poverty levels? Support your claims with specific numbers and examples.

*Answers may vary. Here's one example: For every vaccine in the chart, the immunization levels for "below poverty" are lower than the national average. For example, for polio, the national average is 92.5% immunized, while for those below poverty, 90.5% are immunized. Similarly, for every vaccine in the chart, the immunization levels for "at or above poverty" are above the national average. For polio, the figure for immunization level at or above poverty is 93.2%.*

2. For which common vaccine or vaccine series is the gap between those vaccinated at or above poverty level and below poverty level largest? Support your claim with specific numbers and examples.

*In both the ≥4 (5) DTP series and the 4:3:1 DTP:poliovirus:MMR series, the difference between immunization levels at or above poverty and below poverty is 6.4%.*

Vaccine	At or Above Poverty, %	Below Poverty, %	Difference, %
Four or more doses of DTP	87.1	80.7	6.4
Four or more doses DTP, three or more doses poliovirus, one or more dose of MMR	84.8	78.4	6.4

3. Which common vaccine or vaccine series has the highest coverage at the U.S. national level? Which has the lowest? Include the name of the vaccine or vaccine series along with the percent coverage.

Coverage Nationally	Vaccine or Vaccine Series	Coverage, %
Highest	Three or more doses of DTP (any diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccines or closely related vaccines)	95.8
Lowest	Four or more doses DTP, three or more doses poliovirus, one or more dose of MMR	82.9

4. What specific challenges might people living below the poverty level face in getting access to vaccines, even if they are provided for free?

*Individuals may have difficulty locating and traveling to a healthcare facility, for example.*